

## EXTENDING TIME FOR DOING ASSESSMENT WORK ON MINING CLAIMS.

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DECEMBER 17, 1920.—Committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union and ordered to be printed.

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Mr. RHODES, from the Committee on Mines and Mining, submitted the following

### REPORT.

[To accompany S. 4565.]

The Committee on Mines and Mining, to whom was referred the bill (S. 4565) extending the time for the doing of annual assessment work on mining claims for the year 1920 to and including July 1, 1921, having had the same under consideration report the same back to the House and respectfully recommend that the bill do pass without amendment.

A similar resolution was submitted to the Secretary of the Interior and received his approval as follows:

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,  
Washington, D. C., December 10, 1920.

Hon. M. E. RHODES,  
*Chairman Committee on Mines and Mining,  
House of Representatives.*

MY DEAR MR. RHODES: Answering your letter of December 9, 1920, requesting report upon House joint resolution 396, "to suspend the requirements of annual assessment work on mining claims during the year 1920," I quote from my report of December 9, 1920, upon House joint resolution 368:

"During the years 1917, 1918, and 1919, similar legislation was effective upon the representation that scarcity of labor, high cost of materials, and other conditions arising out of the war rendered relief of the mining industry essential. It was hoped that further relief would not be required, but so far as gold mining is concerned conditions of the industry are such that relief is now just as important as during the past three years. I am advised that in the mining regions labor is still hard to obtain, and that the cost of supplies and materials is such as to render the performance of the annual labor required by section 2324 of the Revised Statutes very difficult."

House joint resolution 396 is similar in language to the act of November 13, 1919, and would extend relief to mining claims in the United States, including Alaska. I recommend that this or similar legislation be adopted.

Cordially, yours,

JOHN BARTON PAYNE,  
*Secretary.*

